

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions:

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving an indicator of a brightness setting for a display, said display having a backlight driven by a voltage inverter; and
selecting either a continuous mode of operation for the voltage inverter or a burst mode of operation for the voltage inverter based at least in part on the indicator.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

comparing the brightness setting to a threshold brightness setting;
if the brightness setting is above the threshold brightness setting, setting the indicator to indicate a high brightness setting; and
if the brightness setting is below the threshold brightness setting, setting the indicator to indicate a low brightness setting.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the threshold brightness setting corresponds to 60 candela per meter squared.

4. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

comparing a brightness level for a backlight to a threshold brightness level, said backlight having a voltage inverter;

if the brightness level is above the threshold brightness level, setting an indicator to indicate a high brightness level;

if the brightness level is below the threshold brightness level, setting the indicator to indicate a low brightness level; and

selecting either a continuous mode of operation for the voltage inverter or a burst mode of operation for the voltage inverter based at least in part on the indicator, wherein the threshold brightness level corresponds to an intersection of an efficiency curve of the voltage inverter in the continuous mode and an efficiency curve of the voltage inverter in the burst mode.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

locating the intersection.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

adjusting the brightness setting for the display based on at least one of a user input and an operating system control.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein selecting either the continuous mode or the burst mode comprises:

selecting the continuous mode if the indicator indicates a brightness setting above a threshold; and

selecting the burst mode if the indicator indicates a brightness setting below the threshold.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:
 - an inverter component for a backlight for a display; and
 - a controller for the inverter component, said controller to operate the inverter component in either a continuous mode or a burst mode based at least in part on a brightness setting for the display.
9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the inverter component comprises:
 - a first switch coupled between a first node and a second node, said first node to couple to a voltage source;
 - a second switch coupled between the second node and a third node, said third node to couple to a ground;
 - a third switch coupled between the first node and a fourth node;
 - a fourth switch coupled between the third node and the fourth node;
 - a first capacitive element coupled between the second node and a fifth node;
 - a transformer having a first coil coupled between the fourth node and the fifth node, and a second coil to couple a sixth node to a first terminal of the backlight; and
 - a second capacitive element to couple the sixth node to a second terminal of the backlight.

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Atty. Docket No.: P17636
Application No.: 10/750,140

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the first, second, third, and fourth switches comprise field effect transistors (FETs).

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the controller is to open and close the first, second, third, and fourth switches.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein, in the continuous mode, the first and fourth switches are switched in phase, the second and third switches are switched in phase, and the first and fourth switches are switched 180 degrees out of phase with the second and third switches.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein, in the burst mode, the first, second, third, and fourth switches are open during a resting duration.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the controller comprises:

an indicator pin to receive an indication of the brightness setting of the display.

15. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable computer readable medium having stored thereon machine-executable computer executable instructions that, when executed, implement a method comprising:

receiving an indicator of a brightness setting for a display, said display having a backlight driven by a voltage inverter; and selecting either a continuous mode of operation for the voltage inverter or a burst mode of operation for the voltage inverter based at least in part on the indicator.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-readable~~computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein the method further comprises:

comparing the brightness setting to a threshold brightness setting; if the brightness setting is above the threshold brightness setting, setting the indicator to indicate a high brightness setting; and if the brightness setting is below the threshold brightness setting, setting the indicator to indicate a low brightness setting.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer readable ~~machine-readable~~ medium of claim 16 wherein the threshold brightness setting corresponds to 60 candelas per meter squared.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer readable ~~machine-readable~~ medium having stored thereon ~~machine-executable~~computer executable instructions that, when executed, implement a method comprising:

comparing a brightness level for a backlight to a threshold brightness level, said backlight having a voltage inverter;

if the brightness level is above the threshold brightness level, setting an indicator to indicate a high brightness level;

if the brightness level is below the threshold brightness level, setting the indicator to indicate a low brightness level; and

selecting either a continuous mode of operation for the voltage inverter or a burst mode of operation for the voltage inverter based at least in part on the indicator, wherein the threshold brightness level corresponds to an intersection of an efficiency curve of the voltage inverter in the continuous mode and an efficiency curve of the voltage inverter in the burst mode.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer readable machine-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the method further comprises:

locating the intersection.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer readable machine-readable medium of claim 15 wherein the method further comprises:

adjusting the brightness setting for the display based on at least one of a user input and an operating system control.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable machine-readable medium of claim 15 wherein selecting either the continuous mode or the burst mode comprises:

selecting the continuous mode if the indicator indicates a brightness setting above a threshold; and

selecting the burst mode if the indicator indicates a brightness setting below the threshold.

22. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a display;

a cold cathode fluorescent lamp (CCFL) in the display; and

a voltage inverter comprising

an inverter component for the CCFL, and

a controller for the inverter component, said controller to operate the inverter component in either a continuous mode or a burst mode based at least in part on a brightness setting for the display.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the inverter component comprises:

a first switch coupled between a first node and a second node, said first node to couple to a voltage source;

a second switch coupled between the second node and a third node, said third node to couple to a ground;

a third switch coupled between the first node and a fourth node;

a fourth switch coupled between the third node and the fourth node;

a first capacitive element coupled between the second node and a fifth node;

a transformer having a first coil coupled between the fourth node and the fifth node, and a second coil to couple a sixth node to a first terminal of the backlight; and

a second capacitive element to couple the sixth node to a second terminal of the backlight.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the controller is to open and close the first, second, third, and fourth switches.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein, in the continuous mode, the first and fourth switches are switched in phase, the second and third switches are switched in phase, and the first and fourth switches are switched 180 degrees out of phase with the second and third switches.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23 wherein, in the burst mode, the first, second, third, and fourth switches are open during a resting duration.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the controller comprises:

an indicator pin to receive an indication of the brightness setting of the display.